

Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The first Episcopal services were held in Dakota Territory for settlers in the Yankton area in the summer of 1860. A small log church was built and the services were held on June 30, 1861. Ever since, there has been Episcopal presence in Yankton, Dakota Territory, and South Dakota; and,

Whereas, The same log church, St. John's, hosted the first House of Representatives for Dakota Territory from March to June, 1861; and,

Whereas, In 1864 Christ Church parish officially organized and provided a church home for over one hundred families, until more churches were established in the 1870's; and,

Whereas, Christ Church hosted the first convention of Episcopalians in Dakota Territory in 1870, at "the little brown church" and continued to host meetings until 1874, when Calvary Church in Sioux Falls was chosen as the Cathedral by Bishop Hare; and,

Whereas, Since 1861, Christ Church parish has built and worshipped in three churches; the current church at 517 Douglas Avenue was completed in 1882; and,

Whereas, During the early years of Christ Church, many parishioners and Revered Melanchthon Hoyt contributed to the establishment of Dakota Territory and the drive toward statehood for South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Christ Church has always been an enthusiastic supporter of education beginning with Dakota Hall in 1868 and has encouraged students through the schools, Boys and Girls Scouts, Kids Hope, special education classrooms and initiated the local Weekend Food Packs, as part of a continued effort; and,

Whereas, The loyal members of Christ Church have continued the Hoyt enthusiasm and inspiration for supporting all community efforts in leadership, education, and reaching out to support any needs of the community of Yankton and the surrounding area; and,

Whereas, Today, Christ Episcopal Church gives thanks and praise for those who founded the community of believers and for God's promise to be with the church into the future with faith and hope:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim June 25, 2011, as

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SESQUACENTENNIAL DAY

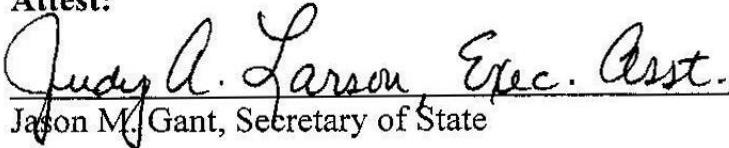
in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-first Day of June in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.


Dennis Daugaard
Governor

Attest:


Judy A. Larson, Exec. Asst.
Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State